

Alternative Methods to Obtain a Certificate of Academic Achievement

Same Standards – Different Rulers

CAA Additional Options Team
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Community and Technical College Videoconference
May 26, 2006



Where it began...

- HB 2195 (2004):
 - The high school assessment system shall include objective “alternative assessments” that may be used to achieve a **Certificate of Academic Achievement**
 - The alternative assessments shall be **comparable in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the WASL** for each content area.
 - OSPI directed to identify options and make recommendations

**Same Standards --
Different Rulers**

2



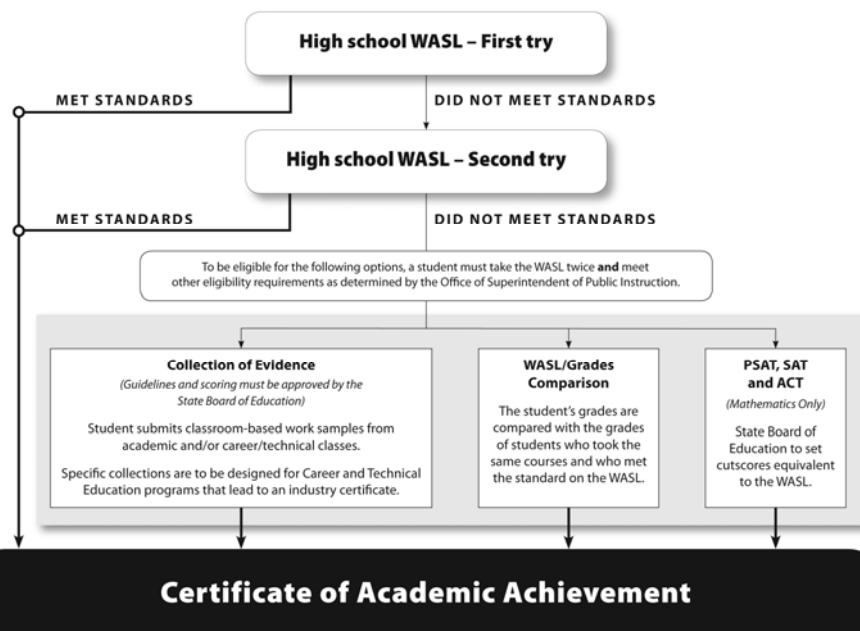


What did the 2006 Legislature approve??



3

Multiple Methods to Earn a Certificate of Academic Achievement (CAA)



Collection of Evidence: How it Works



- Students, with the assistance of a teacher, compile a collection of “work samples” based on specified guidelines
 - Created in academic, intervention, and CTE classes
- The following will be available:
 - The guidelines
 - Model performance tasks
 - Scoring criteria
 - Exemplary work samples and collections
 - Training
- Collections will be scored at the state-level by scoring panels of teachers



5

Collection of Evidence National or State Industry Certificate Programs



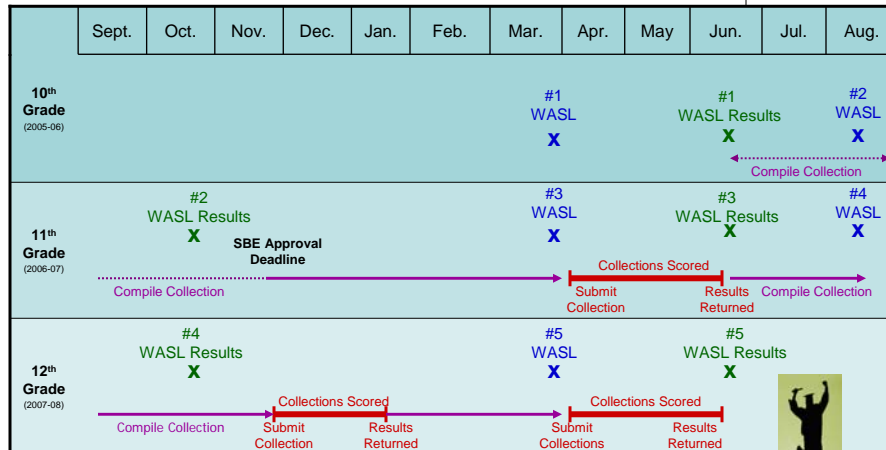
- OSPI to develop guidelines for collections for students in approved CTE programs that lead to a state or national industry certificate
- The collections must:
 - Be relevant to the student's CTE program
 - Focus on the application of academic knowledge and skills
 - Include projects where academic knowledge is inferred
 - Be related to the standards and represent the knowledge and skills that needed for the industry certificate
- To meet the state standard on the alternative assessment, the student must also attain the industry certificate
- OSPI to develop a list of approved CTE programs that qualify for the alternative assessment

6

Proposed Collection of Evidence Process

(Subject to State Board Approval)

Class of 2008



Collection of Evidence: The Statewide Pilot



- In 2005-06 we have been field testing the Collection of Evidence process
- Twenty schools, Skill Centers, and ESDs
 - Small/large, urban/rural, affluent/low income, East/West
- 203 collections were scored by teachers on April 24-25
- As a result of the pilot, we will:
 - Refine the submission guidelines, scoring criteria, and administrative processes
 - Identify and annotate quality work samples
 - Provide information for creating a handbook

Collection of Evidence: State Board Approval



- Guidelines, protocols, and scoring criteria must be approved by the State Board of Education
- State Board must find that the guidelines and scoring process:
 - Will meet professionally accepted standards for a valid and reliable measure of the GLEs and EALRs; and
 - Are comparable to -- or exceed -- the rigor of the skills and knowledge that a student must demonstrate on the WASL.
- See handout for more specificity

9

WASL/Grades Comparison How it works



- Compares grades of the student with the grades of other students in the school:
 - Who took the same mathematics or English/language arts courses in the high school; and
 - Who met or slightly exceeded the standard on the WASL
- If the “cohort” has six or more students and the **student’s** grades are above the average grades of the “cohort,” the **student** would meet the standard
- Will not work in small schools
 - In these cases, students would use the Collection of Evidence

10

Mathematics scores on the PSAT, SAT, and ACT



- Allows a student's PSAT, SAT, or ACT score to be used as an alternative to the WASL in mathematics
- State Board of Education to identify scores students must achieve to meet the state standard by December 1, 2006
- Score must be “equivalent” to the WASL
- Funds were provided to reimburse students who take one of these exams for use as an alternative assessment



11

Guidelines and Appeals



- Three types of guidelines and appeals were approved:
 - **Score appeals:** Parents/students who think their assessment was incorrectly scored
 - **Transfer students:** For students who transfer into a high school in their junior or senior year
 - **Special cases:** Students who are close to the standard but have special, unavoidable circumstances (e.g., health issues)



12

Web-based Information



- CAA Alternative Methods

www.k12.wa.us/assessment/CAAAssess.aspx

Lesley Klenk	Administration and Reading	360 725-6330 lklenk@ospi.wednet.edu
Nikki Elliott-Schuman	Writing	360 725-6341 nellott@ospi.wednet.edu
Anton Jackson	Mathematics	360 725-6437 ajackson@ospi.wednet.edu
Joe Willhott	Assist. Supt., Assessment and Research	360 725-6336 jwillhott@ospi.wednet.edu
Patty Finnegan	Coordinator, Assessments for Special Populations	360 725-6342 pfinnegan@ospi.wednet.edu



13